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Continued from First Page.

soph Devolder. Among the Deputies who signed it were Baron Albert de Huart and Count de Limburg-Strum.

JUSTIFIED BY GERMANY.

Belgian Deportations Held to Be a Social Necessity.

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 8.—The German Government issued a statement today in explanation and justification of the transfer of Belgian laborers to Germany. It says the measure is by no

Of 1,200,000 employees engaged in Belgian industries before the war, 505,000, including 158,000 women, are now wholly without work, and 150,000, including 46,000 women, are partly without work, making a total of 655,000 persons dependent on public aid. In addition to these there are 293,000 wives and

612,000 children or men without work, or 1,360,000 persons, or one-fifth of the total Belgian population, require assistance. More than 300,000,000 francs already have been expended in supporting these persons, and 20,000,000 francs monthly will be required henceforth. These masses of idle people, the statement says, are doing little or nothing, and idleness and social depravity are resulting.

In view of the circumstances, the statement says, the transportation of the Belgian population to the United States is considerably better than in their position.

U. S. RELIEF LISTS USED.

Germans Accused of Violating Pledge in Belgian Deportations.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Duke of Norfolk, chairman of the executive committee of the National Committee for Relief in Belgium, today collected funds in the British Empire for the Commission for Relief in Belgium, to-day gave out a statement in regard to the lists of names of Belgians who are on the American Relief Commission. He said in part: "The recent order issued by the Military Government of Brussels and addressed to the German Government, by which communes under his control required the delivery without delay of lists of unemployed under threats of rigorous measures, has been met by the German authorities with a refusal to supply the German authorities with the names of the unemployed."

ties will themselves select Belgians to be transported to Germany. The lists which are demanded are, as is apparent from other evidence, those drawn up for the relief commission and the national committee.

It is directly contrary to the conditions laid down by the Allies and accepted by the German authorities at the outset of the negotiations in regard to relief matters.

"That the lists of unemployed now demanded are those drawn up for purposes of relief, is attested by the German press. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* on November 19 said the Belgian municipal authorities were being urged to draw up lists because they refused to supply the Germans with lists of unemployed in their districts and which they had drawn up for the International Relief Commission. In consequence control had at first to be extended to the whole population.

and their own admission, therefore,

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